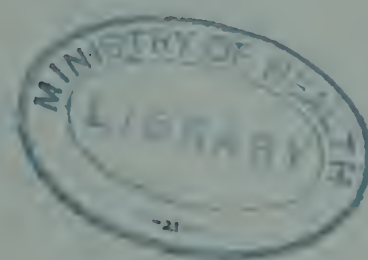


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**URBAN DISTRICT
OF
SADDLEWORTH**

**ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Senior Sanitary Inspector**



**FOR THE YEAR
1951**

SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1951.

by

H. S. BURY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.F.H.

SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Divisional Public Health Office,

"Stoneleigh",

Cooper Street,

STRINGHEAD,

nr. Oldham.

To the Chairman, and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my report on the health of the district for the year 1951.

The year opened with a continuation of the dysentery outbreak which started in November 1950, and did not abate until March, since when sporadic cases continued to occur throughout the year. The prevalence of this disease indicates a regretably low standard of personal hygiene in the community.

The year was notable for the prevalence of "virus" infections. In January and February, many people suffered an attack of influenza. This disease, which spread from Merseyside, was fortunately not of a severe type, most of the deaths occurring in the older age groups.

In the first half of the year we also experienced a widespread epidemic of measles, also caused by a virus, giving the highest incidence since 1940. Another virus disease made it's first recorded appearance in the district during the year, namely Bornholm disease. In July, a local practitioner notified me of an unusual illness in several children attending Friezland school, and further investigation brought to light other cases in Grasscroft and Greenfield. Arrangements were made with Dr. J.O.H. Tobin of the Department of Bacteriology at Manchester University to investigate these cases, with the result that the coxsackie virus was isolated, and the illness identified as Bornholm disease. Twenty two cases were confirmed, five being adults, and the rest children. The illness is not serious, but is of interest because it is easily confused with other conditions, and has not previously been studied in any detail.

It is encouraging to note that tuberculosis caused only two deaths during the year, the lowest yet recorded in the district. Given sufficient sanatorium beds, satisfactory progress with rehousing, and no fall in the

standard of living, there is no medical reason why this preventable disease should not be entirely eliminated within a generation. The main causes of death under the age of 65 are now cancer (10), heart disease (16), and diseases of the blood vessels, particularly those of the heart and brain (25). The diseases of the latter group, which is said to be due to the stress of modern life, are on the increase even in Saddleworth. It is difficult to see how the local authority can best contribute to the solution of these new health problems.

With the now foreseeable elimination of the last of the deadly infections (tuberculosis), the original purpose for which the sanitary authorities were set up is becoming a matter of routine, and if they are to survive, some pioneer work in another direction will have to be tackled.

As in previous years, I have included in my report, extracts from my report to the County Medical Officer on the Divisional Administration of the County Council Health Services.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. S. BURY.

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

H. S. Bury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector

J. H. Platt, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

R. D. Brown, M.R.San.I. (Resigned 28.2.51)

W. Murray, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst M., (Commenced 14.5.51)

Clerical Staff.

Divisional Health Office: Mr. H. Buckley (Chief Clerk)(Resigned 30.11.51)
Mr. A. Wright, D.P.A., (Commenced 1.1.52)
Miss D.E. Broadbent.
Miss D.M. Sykes.
Mr. D. Stockton.

Sanitary Inspector's Office: Miss L. Hunt.

GENERAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE DISTRICT

Area: 18,485 acres.

Population: Enumerated (1951 census) -	Males	7,930
	Females	<u>8,832</u>
	Total	<u><u>16,762</u></u>

Registrar General's Estimate (Mid 1951) 16,640

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1951 according
to rate books: 5,946

Rateable Value:

The sum represented by a ld. rate: £405

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Live Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	116	103	219
Illegitimate	-	5	<u>5</u>
	<u>116</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>224</u>

This gives a crude birth rate of : 13.5 per 1000 population

*A comparable birth rate of : 13.9 " " "

Compared with average of last 10 years: 14.9 per 1000 population

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951 : 15.8 " " "

England and Wales 1951 : 15.5 " " "

* The comparability figure for the district being 1.03

Still-Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

This gives a still-birth rate of : 0.30 per 1000 population or 22 per 1000 li

Compared with average of last 10 yrs. : 0.51 " " " " 32 " "

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951 : 0.42 " " " " 26 " "

England and Wales 1951 : 0.36 " " " " 23 " "

Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths in the district :	85	102	187
Transferred into district :	31	43	74
Transferred out of district:	1	4	5
	<u>115</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>256</u>

This gives a crude death rate of 15.4 per 1000 population, and a comparable death rate of 13.8 per 1000 population*.

Compared with average of last 10 years: 15.71 per 1000 population.

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951 : 12.7 " " "

England and Wales 1951 : 12.5 " " "

* The comparability factor for the district being 0.90.

Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

This gives an infantile mortality of 31.3 per 1000 live births.

Compared with average of last 10 years: 47.2 per 1000 live births.

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951: 31.8 " " " "

England and Wales 1951 : 29.6 " " " "

The causes of death under One Year were:-

		<u>Age</u>
Sepsis	2	Both two weeks.
Acute Bronchitis	1	4 months.
Prematurity	1	2 hours
Erythroblastosis Faetalis	2	4 hours and 3 days.
Congenital Malformation	1	10 months.
	<u>7</u>	

Infantile Diarrhoea.

No deaths in infants under 2 years of age occurred from this cause.

Death rate in Infants under 2 years: NIL per 1000 live births.

Compared with average of last 10 years: 3.1 " " "

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951 : Ø

England and Wales 1951 : 1.4 per 1000 live births.

Ø Figure not available.

Maternal Deaths.

Maternal deaths for 1951 numbered : 2

This gives a maternal mortality of: 8.73 per 1000 live and still-births.

Compared with average of last 10 yrs: 1.57 " " " " "

West Riding of Yorkshire 1951 : 0.93 " " " " "

England and Wales 1951 : 0.79 " " " " "

(The numbers involved are so small in this area that the annual rate has little significance).

PRINCIPLE CAUSES OF DEATH

	Under 15		15 - 65		Over 65		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
" (Other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping-cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Menningococcal Infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2
" " Lung, Bronchus	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
" " Breast.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
" " Uterus	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	-	-	4	2	5	11	9	13
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	-	-	7	4	7	17	14	21
Coronary Disease, Angina	-	-	10	4	9	6	19	10
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-	1	-	2	3	3	3
Other Heart Disease	-	1	4	10	17	25	21	36
Other Circulatory Disease	-	-	1	-	5	7	6	7
Influenza	-	-	-	-	3	4	3	4
Pneumonia	-	-	-	2	1	2	1	4
Bronchitis	1	-	4	1	4	7	9	8
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	-	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
Gastro-Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Congenital Malformations	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	3	2	1	2	10	13	14	17
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	1
All Other Accidents	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	2
Suicide	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	1
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	5	5	41	33	69	103	115	141

COMPARATIVE TABLE

	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	Average rate last 10 yrs.	West Riding of Yorks	England and Wales
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	0.12	0.28	0.24	0.28
Other forms of Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	0.09	0.04	0.04
Respiratory Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis)	30	1.80	1.61	1.81	Ø
Cancer	30	1.80	2.09	1.80	1.96
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	140	8.41	6.73	6.44	Ø

Ø Figures not available.

HOSPITALS

There are no hospitals in Saddleworth, which since July 5th, 1948 is within the Leeds Regional Hospital Board area. As hospital facilities are more easily available across the County Boundary however, it has been agreed that hospitals in the Manchester Region should also serve this district.

General cases go to Oldham Royal Infirmary, Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham, Huddersfield Infirmary, and Ashton District Infirmary, specialised hospitals being available in Manchester. Maternity beds are provided at Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham, and infectious diseases beds are provided at Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital, Oldham.

Venereal Disease.

Confidential treatment is available at York Place, New North Rd, Huddersfield, on Monday and Friday 2 - 4, and 5 - 7 p.m., and on Wednesday, from 10.0 a.m. - 12 noon, and 2 - 4 p.m., also at Boundary Park General Hospital, on Monday 5 - 7 p.m., Thursday, 10.0 a.m. - 12 noon and 5 - 7 p.m., and Friday from 2 - 4 p.m.

Cancer.

Facilities for radium and other treatment are available to Saddleworth residents at:-

The Radium Institute, Manchester.

The Royal Infirmary, Oldham.

Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham.

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

The District Infirmary, Ashton-U-Lyne.

Laboratory Facilities.

Clinical laboratory facilities are available at the Oldham Hospitals Joint Laboratory, and Public Health work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Wakefield and Manchester Laboratories.

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Oldham Ambulance Service, based on the Central Depot, Kelsall Street Oldham, provides full ambulance cover for the whole of the Urban District of Saddleworth. This arrangement operated before the 5th July, 1948, when the National Health Service Act came into force, and has been continued at the request of the West Riding County Council since that date. All statutory obligations

placed on the West Riding County Council by virtue of the Act, so far as it concerns ambulance work, are carried out by this service.

Owing to the nature of the work likely to be encountered in a hilly area such as Saddleworth Urban District, special equipment, ropes, special type stretchers etc., are kept in Kelsall Street Depot for use when bringing injured persons down hillsides etc.

For mental cases, the County Council Ambulances are generally used, as the Duly Authorised Officer comes from Huddersfield with the ambulance he has arranged for the patient's transfer to hospital.

The total figures of cases moved during the year are given overleaf.

AMBULANCE SERVICE 1951

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	November	December	Total
Miles	A 1356 C 827	1362 738	1591 823	1600 527	1711 734	1071 657	1427 945	1696 1129	1216 616	1704 710	1407 1254	1288 1243	17429 10203
Accident	A 7	4	7	7	12	6	11	14	13	14	9	13	117
	C -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Emergency	A 9	18	15	16	14	9	8	27	18	17	18	11	180
	C -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3
Others	A 155	161	185	151	177	131	162	163	124	195	169	135	1908
	C 104	80	82	39	64	69	83	109	73	81	120	132	1036
Journeys	A 56	57	54	56	68	37	38	89	64	102	82	83	786
	C 30	31	29	20	25	28	36	55	50	59	67	56	486

Journeys over 25 miles.

February	Holmfirth	1	May	Southport	1	July	Leeds	1
	Cleveleys	1		Leeds	1		Ilkley	1
				Sheffield	1		Halifax	1
March	Davyhulme	1		Huddersfield	1		Huddersfield	2
	Ilkley	1		Davyhulme	1	August	Stoke	1
						September	Holmfirth	1
							Bolton	1

N.B. A - Ambulance
C - Sitting Case Car

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1951
(Corrected Notifications)

Disease	Average notifications over the last 10 years.	1951	Removed to hospital	Deaths
Small-Pox	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	33.9	21	6	0
Diphtheria	5.6	0	0	0
Whooping-cough	47.7	79	0	0
Measles	126.1	309	0	0
Pneumonia	13.8	8	0	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0.6	1	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis & Encephalitis	1.0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	3.5	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	0.1	1	1	0
Dysentery	10.2	120	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0.1	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.6	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	1.3	4	2	0
Total	244.5	543	9	1

Hospital treatment was provided at Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital Oldham, and Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

The only death was due to pneumonia, and occurred during the influenza epidemic in the first two months of the year.

Ages of Cases and Deaths* in Principle Diseases.

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping- cough	Polio- Encephalitis and Myelitis
Under 1	-	-	-	13	2	-
1 - 2	4	-	-	66	19	-
3 - 4	6	-	-	115	24	-
5 - 9	9	-	-	103	33	-
10-14	1	-	-	5	-	-
15-24	1	-	1	5	-	-
25-34	-	-	3	1	1	-
35-44	-	-	3	-	-	-
45-64	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1 (1)	-	-	-
	21	-	8 (1)	309	79	-

* Deaths in brackets.

Scarlet Fever was less common and in the usual mild form which we expect these days. The case rate works out at 1.26 per 1000 of the population, compared with 2.06 for the average of the last 10 years, and 1.11 for England and Wales for this year.

Measles. There was a widespread outbreak during the first months of the year giving a rate of 18.57 compared with 7.69 for the last 10 years, and 14.07 for England and Wales. In most cases it was mild, there being no deaths.

Whooping-cough. Incidence was lower this year with a rate of 4.74 per 1000 of the population, compared with the average of 2.99 over the last 10 years, and 3.87 for England and Wales. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria. There was no case of diphtheria during the year.

Poliomyelitis. There was no case of poliomyelitis during the year.

Food Poisoning. Four cases were notified during the year, an "outbreak" of two cases and two single cases.

The outbreak of two cases referred to, occurred in two brothers A & B.

'A' became acutely ill 12 hours after eating a meat pie purchased in another district, this appeared to be the only food not eaten in common with the rest of the family. He suffered from severe vomiting and diarrhoea of acute onset in the night. 'B' slept in a bed close up against 'A's bed, and 12 hours after 'A' became ill, 'B' became ill with similar symptoms.

I suspect that 'B' was infected by the vomit of 'A'.

The organisms of salmonella typhi-murium was isolated from the stool of 'B' but not 'A'. Enquiry revealed no other case of food poisoning in the district from which the pie came and hygiene was satisfactory.

Both cases were moderately severe, but had completely recovered in 7 days.

The two single cases both occurred in infants in the same house at an interval of 10 days. Relatives in an adjoining district were affected during the same period.

There was no evidence as to the source of the infection. Organisms of salmonella typhi-murium were isolated from both cases.

Influenza. The influenza epidemic experienced in the North West during the early months of 1951 affected this district. Although only three cases of influenzal pneumonia were notified in January, and two in February, the more widespread nature of the epidemic was revealed by the fact that the number of new claims for sickness benefit rose from an average of 100 per month to 432 in January and 217 in February. Also the number of deaths occurring locally rose from an average of 16 per month to 25 in January, (pneumonia 3, bronchitis 3, influenza 2), and to 30 in February, (bronchitis 4, Influenza 5.)

Enteric Fever. One case of para-typhoid fever was notified in August and was removed to hospital, and another member of the family was found to be a symptomless carrier. The patient was discharged from hospital a heavy carrier, and both were still under surveillance at the end of the year.

Dysentery. The outbreak of dysentery which occurred in Dobcross in November and December 1950, spread in January 1951 to Delph, and in February to Greenfield. The incidence then declined except for a mild outbreak in Delph again in July and Greenfield in November. See table below:-

Cases of Dysentery Notified November 1950 to December 1951 inclusive.
(Uncorrected Notifications)

	Dobcross	Green- field.	Delph	Diggle	Upper- mill	Spring- head	Grass- croft	Auster- lands	Denshaw	Total
<u>1950</u>										
Nov.	10	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	14
Dec.	52	6	8	3	6	0	1	1	0	77
<u>1951</u>										
Jan.	9	6	26	7	2	0	0	0	0	50
Feb.	0	27	3	5	3	0	2	0	0	40
Mch.	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	6
Apr.	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
May.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
June.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
July.	1	1	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	12
Aug.	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Sept.	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Oct.	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
Nov.	2	11	0	2	1	1	1	6	0	14
Dec.	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Total 1951	15	49	41	18	10	5	3	1	0	144
Total 1950 and 51.	77	56	51	22	16	5	4	2	0	233

The numbers notified only indicate a proportion of the cases which actually occur, because the majority of cases are mild and never receive medical attention. All notified cases were visited and patients and contacts who were engaged in the food trade or in any way specially liable to spread infection were kept off work or instructed in special precautions to be taken until negative specimens were obtained. These steps however, were of limited value as enquiries made by the department often revealed the presence of many other cases which were not notified.

When one considers that infection can only occur when germs enter the mouth of the victim from the excretion of a case, and that for not one single month throughout the year has the district been free of cases, it is a sad reflection on the standard of personal hygiene of the population.

If every member of the public obeyed the simple and generally acknowledged elementary rules of hygiene, such as washing the hands properly after attending the toilet and before touching food, food and drink utensils, or the mouth, such a disease could not spread.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out at all sessions of all Child Welfare Centres in the division, and all schools are visited during the year for immunisation of entrants not already protected and for the giving of reinforcing doses at four yearly intervals.

Propaganda is confined to leaflets distributed at Welfare Centres, and in the home by the Health Visitors, and letters addressed to the parents when reinforcing doses are due in school children. In view of the low refusal rate, this appears at the moment to be sufficient.

Figures for the year are summarised as follows:-

Under 5's.

Immunisations completed at clinics	129
Immunisations completed by private practitioners	<u>68</u>
Total	<u>197</u>

5 - 15 years.

Immunisations completed at schools	30
Immunisations completed by private practitioners	<u>4</u>
Total	<u>34</u>
Booster doses given at clinics	17
Booster doses given at schools	312
Booster doses given by private practitioners	<u>27</u>
Total	<u>356</u>

Immunisation State of Child Population - 31st December, 1951.

Age at 31.12.51.	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Total under 15
Born in the year	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1942-6	1937-41	
No. immunised	17	132	144	206	218	1079	874	2670
Figures supplied by Registrar General			1235			2084		3319
% age of above immunised			58%			93.7%		80.4%

Vaccination.

Vaccination against smallpox was offered at Child Welfare Centres, but no steps were taken to popularise the procedure.

Infants vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres	30
Infants vaccinated by general practitioners	19
Children 1 - 14 vaccinated at Child Welfare Centres	9
Children 1 - 14 vaccinated by general practitioners	9
Adults vaccinated by general practitioners	<u>13</u>
Total	<u>80</u>

Tuberculosis.

The branch dispensary at Uppernill was closed in 1950, and patients now attend the dispensary at Barker Street, Oldham, in the Oldham Hospital Management Committee area. Patients still have to attend the hospital for radiology.

Last year the Tuberculosis Health Visitor resigned and has not been replaced. The Health Visitors have undertaken the home visiting of tuberculosis cases, and this arrangement appears to be satisfactory. They attend dispensary sessions at least once per quarter, and so maintain direct contact with the tuberculosis officer, and full knowledge of the patients.

It is unfortunate that, in addition to the divided responsibility between the local authority and the hospital service, there are two Regional Hospital Boards involved in this area, dispensary services being provided by the Manchester Region and in-patient facilities by the Leeds Region. Fortunately, personal contact and goodwill by those concerned, particularly Dr. H.S. Bagshaw of the Oldham Dispensary, minimise these difficulties, nevertheless, the present position causes some anxiety.

The waiting period between notification and admission to Sanatorium is still far too long. During 1951, patients have had to wait up to six months for admission, only one case being admitted within a month of notification.

The number of cases on the register is summarised in the following tables:-

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Cases on Register at 1st January, 1951	23	13	8	15
Notified during the year	4	3	2	6
Restored to the Register	-	-	-	-
Added to the Register other than by Notification	-	1	-	-
Cases: Removed	-	-	-	-
Recovered	-	-	-	-
Died	2	-	-	-
Cases on Register at 31st December 1951	25	17	10	21

Tuberculosis Mortality Table.

	Deaths per 1000 of population		
	Pulmonary	Non-Fulmonary	Total
Saddleworth 1951	0.12	-	0.12
Saddleworth average of last 10 years	0.28	0.09	0.37
West Riding of Yorkshire 1951	0.24	0.04	0.28
England and Wales 1951	0.28	0.04	0.32

One death due to respiratory tuberculosis occurred in a male not notified during life.

Death rates for all forms of tuberculosis are approximately those of the rest of the country.

Miniature Mass Radiography.

No visit of the unit was made to this area during the year.

Venereal Disease.

There were eleven attendances at V.D. Centres by people living in this district during the year, four were cases of venereal disease. Attendance is confidential and I am notified of numbers only. The services of the County Council V.D. Social Worker are available for contact tracing etc., in cases where the consent of the doctor and patient are forthcoming.

CARE OF THE AGED.

We have continued to give the aged and infirm all the assistance possible. The Home Helps and District Nurses spend much of their time with aged persons, and Health Visitors have continued to give them all the assistance that their very limited time allows.

A central Saddleworth Old People's Welfare Committee has been formed and all districts now have their own Committee. These are doing invaluable work providing social activity, home visiting, supply of comforts, chiropody and in some cases meals. The Secretary's in the various districts are as follows:-

Diggle.	Mr. H. Fogson, 167, Huddersfield Rd, Diggle.
Springhead.	Miss F. Price J.P., 249, Oldham Rd, Springhead.
Delph.	Mr. E. Lawton, Sandbed, 77, Delph Lane, Delph.
Dobcross.	Mr. F.G. Battye, Holme Bank, 17, Dobcross New Rd, Dobcross.
Uppermill.	Mrs. L. Haddon, 3, The Shaws, Uppermill.
Denshaw.	Mrs. M.H. Arthurs, Hey House Cottage, Denshaw.
Austerlands.	Miss V.M. Sykes, 3, Knowsley, Springhead.
Greenfield.	Mrs. M. Parkin, 47, Annisfield Ave., Greenfield.

WATER SUPPLIES

I am indebted to Mr. B. Castle, the Surveyor, for the following particulars:-

"The "Mains" Water Supply in the area of the urban district continues to be well maintained.

The Ashton, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield (District) Joint Committee have two reservoirs in the Greenfield Valley, and a third one in the Chew Valley. This however is only intended for compensation water.

The Oldham Corporation has reservoirs at Castleshaw, Dowry, New Years Bridge, Creek Gato, and Ready-Con-Dean.

In the Diggle Valley are also reservoirs which feed the Huddersfield Canal.

The statutory areas of supply are as follows:-

	Area in Acres	R.V.	Population
		£	
Ashton, S. & D. (District) Waterworks Joint Committee	12,480	66,640	11,097
Oldham Corporation	1,341	20,083	4,500
Outside Statutory Areas	4,664	15,629	1,200
Totals	18,485	102,352	16,797

An area of approximately 900 acres in extent in the Denshaw district is supplied by the Oldham Corporation outside their statutory area.

A small area in the Grotton district of approximately 138 acres is supplied by the Ashton, S. & D. (District) Waterworks Joint Committee, and this is also outside their statutory area.

Delph, Dobcross, Diggle, Uppermill, Greenfield and Grasscroft are chiefly supplied from the reservoirs in the Greenfield Valley.

Springhead and Denshaw are supplied from the reservoirs of the Oldham Corporation

The water from these moorland reservoirs is said to be naturally plumbo solvent, so special treatment has been adopted (Aluminoferric and chalk with subsequent filtration through pressure filters)."

Out of the 5946 houses in the district, 1054 are not on a main supply and use water from wells and springs. A number of these are subject to pollution by surface water, and during dry weather are apt to fail altogether. Samples taken from water supplies in various parts of the district have recently shown an increasing proportion of unsatisfactory samples. In most cases, these supplies are to houses in outlying parts of the district which cannot reasonably be supplied with mains water. As this would require extensions for considerable distances, and even the installation of pumping plants to raise the water to the levels required in certain parts of the area, householders are therefore advised to boil all water used for drinking purposes.

For details of tests made in water supplies in the area, see the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Mr. Castle the Surveyor reports as follows:-

SEWERAGE DETAILS 1951.

The whole of the area with the exception of Grasscroft and Springhead is sewered direct to the Shaw Hall Bank Sewage Disposal Works, Greenfield.

The main sewer from this works follows roughly the direction of the river Tame from Greenfield to Denshaw. The size of the main outfall sewer varies in diameter from 27" at the works to 9" in Denshaw.

Branch sewers are picked up by the main sewer from the districts of Delph, New Delph, Dobcross, Diggle, Uppermill and Greenfield.

The various branches at Delph enter the 12" main sewer near Rasping Mill, Delph. Other branches from New Delph enter a 15" main near Delph Station. A 6" branch enters the 18" main near the Woolpack Inn, Dobcross, and the Diggle branch is picked up near Brownhill Bridge. This is a 9" sewer entering the 18" main.

The main is 21" diameter through Uppermill and branches serving the Uppermill area are collected at Court Street and Wade Lock.

An 18" branch serving Greenfield enters the 27" main sewer near the Old Sewage Disposal Works off Chew Valley Road, Greenfield, and the 27" main sewer crosses the river Tame into the works near it's junction with the Chew Valley Brook.

The Grasscroft and Shaw Hall Bank areas could not gravitate to the Shaw Hall Bank Works, Greenfield, due to difficulties of level and the canal crossing. These have been overcome by the installation of a Pumping Station at Royal George on the south west side of the district to which all the drainage of these areas gravitates, and are then pumped back to the Greenfield Works.

A 7" diameter sewer serves the Shaw Hall Bank area and increases to 12" after picking up a 9" branch sewer serving the Grasscroft district.

At the Royal George pumping station there are three pumps, all of which are automatic float controlled.

The sewage flows to one sump or well in which the floats are fixed at different levels according to the size of the pump and period of entering.

In normal day periods, a small pump is more than adequate for the flow and only works at intervals, but in the event of an increase in the flow caused by rain, storms etc., which this pump cannot control, the water level in the well rises and engages the float of one of the larger pumps which is immediately brought into commission and the small pump is cut out by an automatic control.

The sewage from the pumping station is pumped to the works at Shaw Hall Bank through 8" cast iron pipes for treatment along with the sewage from other parts of the district.

A 6" separate branch sewer serves certain parts of Manchester Rd, and Lacres Estate, and enters the works at Shaw Hall Bank at the same point as the main outfall sewer.

The Springhead part of the district is sewered by gravitation to the Pitses Sewage Disposal Works which is situated in the area of the Linchurst Rural District Council.

A 15" main outfall sewer follows roughly the line of the river Medlock through Lees to the boundary of the Springhead area at Hartshhead Street, and thence branch sewers extend to the Waterhead, Austerlands, and Scouthead areas and through Thornlea Fold to Lydgate. There are no sewers in the Northern part of the Springhead area beyond Scouthead and Austerlands.

Trade waste effluents from factories and works in various parts of the area are connected to the main sewers at different points by private drains. The volume of effluent discharged from these premises is metered at the point of connection to the sewer and a charge is made by the Council to the respective owners of the premises for the treatment of the sewage. There are still four factories in the district which have trade waste discharges which are not connected to the sewerage system.

Most of the built up area of the district is sewered, but there are certain properties on the outlying hillsides which still require sewers extending to connect them to the main drainage system.

732 yards of new 9" sewer has been laid in the Greenfield area enabling a further 29 existing houses to be connected to the sewer along with a works latrines, canteen and social club premises.

5 new houses have been connected to the sewer during the year.

30 additional water closets have been installed in private houses and industrial premises.

Mr. Kershaw, Sewage Works Manager, reports as follows:-

"The Council's two Sewage Works treated 436 million gallons of domestic sewage and 70 million gallons of trade effluent during the year; 33.5 tons of precipitant were used.

During the year, the responsibility for the purity of the streams in this area passed to the Mersey River Board, the change was immediately reflected in the general tightening up of the standard required of effluents, but both of the Works discharged effluents satisfactory to the Board throughout the year.

The heated sludge digestion plant at the Greenfield Works was placed in operation in October, and after digestion the sludge was passed on to the newly constructed drying beds. Most of the grease content which is the main objection to the use of this sludge in agriculture, was removed during the digestion process, and the resultant sludge gives promise of being, when dry, a very useful fertiliser and soil conditioner.

At the Springhead Works, work was continued on the pumping and drying bed scheme; the pump house was built and the pump and motor fitted.

One application to discharge trade effluent to the Works was received, and experiments on this and on the treatment of paper-mill effluent, and for the routine control of the two Works was carried out in the laboratory."

HOUSING.

Many of the houses in the district are not fit for human habitation, judged on standards recommended by the Ministry of Health. Some are structurally unsound, and over 100 are of the back to back type, and some are back to earth. All these will be dealt with under Sect. 11., or 25, of the Housing Act when the housing situation permits.

Some houses, although otherwise unsatisfactory, are of sound construction and are capable of re-conditioning or re-construction to bring them up to modern requirements, but no application has been made by any owner under Part I of the Housing Act, 1949. In the meantime, it is only possible to keep the houses in as reasonable a state of repair as possible by action under the Public Health and Housing Acts, having in mind the need to make the best of every house available during the present housing shortage. Full particulars of the action taken during the year are given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Applicants on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year numbered 226 consisting of:-

72 families living in rooms.
95 families requiring more suitable accommodation.
9 families requiring rehousing on medical grounds.
30 elderly couples requiring bungalows.
19 families resident outside Saddleworth.
1 Agricultural Worker.

226

MILK.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, have considerably altered the functions of this Authority, as a large proportion of the milk distributing in the area are also producers, and most dairies are also dairy farms. These are now no longer registered with this Authority, but with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This Authority however, remains responsible for the supervision of retail distribution and sale of milk, and I as Medical Officer am responsible for provisions with regard to the infection of milk.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, Art. 20.

Three notices were issued requiring milk suspected of being infected with tuberculosis to be heat treated.

FOOD HYGIENE

Catering is becoming an increasingly important industry in the districts. The campaigning for improvement in the hygiene of food handling continued. All establishments holding catering licences, and many food shops were systematically inspected during the year, and provisions of the Food Byelaws adopted by the Council in May, 1950 were explained to the proprietors and staffs. On the whole, the response was very encouraging and a gradual but definite improvement in the standard of hygiene was evident. No further attempt at mass education was made as it was found that the individual approach was the most profitable. The dangers were kept before the public through my monthly reports to the Committee, which were reported in the local press.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

Following my detailed report on the inadequacy of washing facilities in the schools last year, the matter is being pressed with the County Council Education Committee, but nothing has so far been done.

The extensive defects reported at St. Mary's C. of E. School, Greenfield have been considered by the governors, who are at present negotiating with the County Council about the future of the school.

SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF

THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1951

BY

J. H. PLATT, M.R. San I. M.S.I.A.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

Health Department,
Council Offices,
St. Chad's,
UPPERMILL,
nr. Oldham.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Saddleworth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my sixth Annual Report of the work of the Health Department for the year 1951.

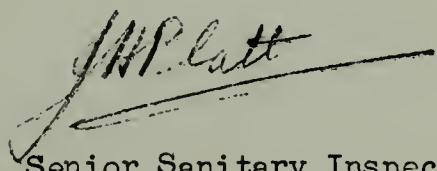
This year again saw changes in the staff of my department, Mr. R.D. Brown resigned on obtaining an appointment with the Meriden Rural District Council, and was replaced as Additional Sanitary Inspector by Mr. W. Murray. This change has again to some extent upset the running of the department, which was further aggravated by Mr. Murray not being able to obtain a suitable car. It is difficult to pick up the threads in a district so scattered as this, particularly without suitable means of transport.

The problem of the replacement of dustbins was again considered by the Health Committee on a number of occasions, but it was decided to wait until the provisions of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951 came into force, which it is hoped will simplify the procedure in this direction.

I desire to tender my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, Members of the Council, and all members of the staff for their ready co-operation and assistance.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,



Senior Sanitary Inspector.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS:

Total number of inspections made	
in 1951 for Nuisances only	
(not including Housing Inspections	861
Nuisances found in 1951	1132
Nuisances in hand end of 1950	150
Total needing abatement	1282
Abated during 1951	1097
Outstanding end of 1951	185
Notices served, Informal	371
Informal notices complied with	304
Notices served, Statutory	16
Statutory notices complied with	9
Total number of summonses or other legal	
proceedings	-

OTHER INSPECTIONS:

Housing.(see Pages 2 to 5) 212

Food & Drugs Act.

Ice Cream Premises	58
Slaughter Houses	138
Butcher's Shops	51
Food Preparing Premises (Canteens, Restaurants etc.)	87
Other Food Shops	151
Bakehouses	32

Shops Act, 1950, Section 38.

Visits paid	193
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Public Health Act, 1936.

Offensive Trades	3
Tents, Vans, Sheds	12

Factories Act, 1937.

Visits paid	53
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CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

Number of privies with open middens	88
Number of Pail Closets	640
Number of Water Closets	5032
Waste Water Closets	606
Number of Privies reconstructed during 1951	
(a) As W.C.'s	-
(b) Other	-
Number of Closets other than Privies reconstructed during 1951 as W.C.'s	5
Number of additional Closets provided for old property in 1951 as (a) W.C.'s	18
(b) Other	-
Number of Closets constructed in 1951 for new houses (a) W.C.'s	42
(b) Other	-
Total number of Closets in District	6366
Percentage of closets on water carriage system	79% app.

HOUSING:

Number of dwelling houses in the district	5946
Number of back-to-back houses included in above	100 app.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	71
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	212
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	-
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	-

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year (cont'd).

(3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action:-

(a) Number considered to be in a state so

dangerous or injurious to health as to

be unfit for human habitation 2

(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3)

(a) above), found not to be in all

respects reasonably fit for human

habitation 38

2. Remedy of defects during the year without
service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses

rendered fit in consequence of

informal action by the Local Authority

or their officers 32

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16,

Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect

of which notices were served requiring

repairs -

(2) Number of dwelling houses which

were rendered fit after service

of formal notices:-

(a) By owners -

(b) By Local Authority -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in

respect of which notices were

served requiring defects to be

remedied 16

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts (Continued).

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects
were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners9

(b) By Local Authority in default of
owners -

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the
Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of representations etc., made in
respect of dwelling houses unfit for
human habitation 2

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of
which Demolition Orders were made 1

(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in
pursuance of Demolition Orders -

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing
Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders
were made -

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground
rooms, the Closing Orders in respect of which
were determined, the tenement or room having
been rendered fit -

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

A revised survey is necessary to ascertain a reasonably correct
position.

5. New Houses.

Number of new houses provided during the year:-

By the Local Authority - Permanent Type 22

Temporary Type -

By Private Enterprise 5

6. Housing Act, 1949.

Any action in connection with Section 20 "Grants to persons other than local authorities for improvement of housing accommodation" -

One house which was part subject of a Clearance Order made in 1939 was allowed to be occupied under Defence Regulation 68AA for a period of one year.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Housing Department, and if applicants for Council Houses state that they are living in unsatisfactory conditions, my department is notified of this by the Housing Manager. All such houses are inspected and any necessary action taken, after which the Housing Department is kept informed of such action and the results thereof.

WATER SUPPLY:

During the year, twenty-one houses and one factory which had previously been supplied from private sources, were connected to the mains supply.

Nine samples of water were taken from private supplies for bacteriological examination. Seven proved to be satisfactory and two unsatisfactory. On two occasions during the year, each of the two main water supplies were sampled for plumbo-solvency, the results proved to be satisfactory.

Samples of raw and treated water were taken at approximately monthly intervals by the two water undertakings. Copies of reports received from them showed the results were satisfactory

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

Twenty-six observations, each of 30 minutes duration were made during the year. Six cautionary letters were sent to the owners, and in all cases, an improvement was effected.

The chief causes of trouble were inefficient stoking and overloading of boilers at peak periods.

MEAT INSPECTION:

There is one licensed slaughterhouse in the district, and this is used for the slaughter of horses. 407 horses were slaughtered during the year at these premises, and an inspection was made in each case involving 138 visits. The amount of meat apart from offal, condemned as being unfit for human consumption was small. The total weight of these condemnations including offal, was 900 lbs., approximately.

In the case of twenty-three horses, or 5.6% of the total kill, some part of the carcase or organ was condemned as affected with diseases other than tuberculosis. (Mainly parasitic conditions in the liver).

During the year, a total of 51 visits were made to the 17 butchers shops in the district. Conditions were found to be generally satisfactory, and no unsound meat was discovered

The Ministry of Food (Enforcement Division) brought to my notice a case of illicit slaughter of meat, in which they had seized the meat and removed same to the Huddersfield Abattoir, where it was condemned as being unfit for human consumption. This was reported to the Health Committee who recommended that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Food requesting that when any illicitly slaughtered meat was seized in this district, an opportunity be afforded to an officer of this department, to inspect the meat before it's removal.

TRANSPORT AND HANDLING OF MEAT:

The conditions under which meat was transported and handled were observed to continue to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following samples were taken by the Weights and Measures Department of the West Riding County Council, for analysis in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:-

	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Adulterated</u>
Milks	74	4
Other Foods	10	2
Drugs	2	-

Proceedings were taken in respect of one sample procured.

Two cautions were issued.

The Oldham Health Department took a considerable number of samples of milk for quality from Saddleworth milk producers retailing in their area.

During 1951, the following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Fruit	-	480 tins
Vegetables	-	110 "
Fish	-	97 "
Meat	-	598 "
Condensed & Evaporated Milk	-	268 "
Soup	-	6 "
Cooked Ham	-	297 lbs. 13 ozs.
Ground Almonds	-	28 lbs.
Butter	-	6 lbs. 8 ozs.
Bacon	-	32 lbs. 12 ozs.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN:

This branch of the work was again actively pursued, and inspections were made of all types of premises as follows:-

Food Preparation Rooms	-	21
Restaurants and Industrial Canteens	-	66
Food Shops	-	151
Butchers Shops	-	51
Bakehouses	-	<u>32</u>
Total Inspections		<u><u>321</u></u>

The attention of all food handlers was constantly drawn to the provisions of the Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and in the majority of premises, improvements in the standard of hygiene were noted on re-inspection.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN (Cont.)

Full use was made of the posters etc., provided by the Travel and Holiday Association.

Close co-operation has been maintained with the Food Executive Officer, and before any catering licence is recommended for the approval of the Food Committee, an inspection is made and any necessary improvements carried out. Nineteen new catering licences were issued during the year. The total number of catering licences in force at the end of 1951 was 155, made up as follows:-

Restaurants etc.,	25
Industrial Canteens	25
Clubs etc.,	37
Licenced Premises	30
Other Premises	<u>38</u>
	<u>155</u>

ICE CREAM:

During the year, four new premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. Four premises previously registered for the sale of ice cream ceased to be used for the purpose:-

No. of premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream at 31st December, 1951	5
No. of premises registered for the sale of ice cream at 31st December, 1951	<u>35</u>
Total number on Register	<u>40</u>
No. of inspections made	58
No. of samples taken	1 (Grade 1)

MILK SUPPLY:

The following licences and registrations were issued, or were in force during the year:-

No. of retail milk sellers registered 19

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of licences in force for :-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pastuerised)	-	-
(b) Pastuerised Milk	1	1
(c) Sterilised Milk	13	1

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of licences in force for :-

	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>
(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	-	1
(b) Accredited Milk	-	-

Twenty samples of milk for the presence of tuberculosis were taken during the year, and reports in connection with a further seventeen samples for Saddleworth milk producers were received from the Oldham Authority. Four samples proved to be positive. In one case Form 'A' was served in respect of one cow, and in the other three, the Medical Officer of Health served notice under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. Two samples of milk submitted for the Methylene Blue test were reported to be satisfactory.

OFFENSIVE TRADES:

There are two such trades in the District, a soap boiler and a size maker, both premises are well maintained, and no nuisance has arisen.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

The Factories Register was checked with H. M. Inspector of Factories, and the figures as to the number on the Register at the end of 1951 are those as revised after this check.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 & 1948 (Cont.)

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	14	-	-
(2)Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	109	39	-	-
(3)Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, (excluding outworkers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	115	53	-	-

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inneffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences(S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	10	-	-	-

Notification has been received from one factory of seven outworkers engaged in "the weaving of any textile fabric", all these persons reside within the District.

CAMPING SITES:

There are two such sites in the district, at both of which conditions were satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL:

The sewers have received a 10% test bait, and two treatments during the year, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The figures below show the results of these treatments:-

	<u>Manholes Baited</u>	<u>"Takes"</u>
10% Test Bait	69	35
1st Maintenance Treatment	244	83
2nd Maintenance Treatment	194	56

The following table gives extracts from Form PDF/R2, which is the annual report of other rodent control work submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (incl. Business & Industrial)	Total
1. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notifications, or (b) otherwise.	(a) - (b) 13	23 -	- -	19 -	42 13
2. Number of properties (under 1) found to be infested by rats	Major - Minor 3	- 15	- -	- 14	- 32
3. Number of properties (under 1) found to be seriously infested by mice.	-	2	-	1	3
4. Number of infested properties (under 2 & 3) treated by Local Authority.	3	17	-	15	35

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948:

During the year it was not necessary to use the Council's powers under this Act with regard to persons dying in the district without near relatives.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Sections 83 & 84.

During the year, the departments attention was drawn to the filthy condition of the premises, and articles in the premises, of a person residing alone in a cottage in a somewhat remote part of the district.

The person, a male of some 60 years of age was found to be unwell and in need of hospital treatment. He was voluntarily removed to hospital, and subsequently to Boundary Park Annexe, where he has remained since, and has given up the tenancy of the cottage.

The premises and articles were cleansed by the staff of the department.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE:

Enquiries were made into 21 cases of scarlet fever, four cases of food poisoning, and one case of para-typhoid B, notified during the year. Although only 120 cases of dysentery were notified, enquiries were made into many more cases of which information was received otherwise than by notification, i.e., through schools etc. This took up a large amount of the time of the staff of the department during the early part of the year, when dysentery was most prevalent. Assistance was also given to the Medical Officer of Health in the collection of specimens in connection with his investigations into an outbreak of Bornholme disease. The following specimens were submitted to the laboratory for examination:-

Faeces	195
Urine	24
Blood	17
Nose Swabs	8
Throat Swabs	12
Hand Swabs	2
Total	<u>258</u>

PETROL LICENCES:

There were 35 licences for storage of petroleum spirit in force at the 31st December, 1951.

SCAVENGING:

Four premises in the outlying parts of the district were included in the Scavenging Area during the year.

A weekly collection of refuse is in operation, which was maintained except during holiday periods and one period when a considerable number of the refuse collection staff were absent by reason of sickness.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Sewage Works, Greenfield. The land recovered at the Sewage Works by tipping is used for the construction of sludge drying beds.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS:

Salvage and recovery operations are carried out at the Sewage Works, Greenfield, where there are three paper baling machines and one tin baling machine. No difficulty was experienced during the year in the disposal of any salvaged material. The price of mixed paper rose during the year from £7. 10. 0d. per ton to £16 per ton.

A bonus scheme has been in operation since the 1st January, 1949, by which 50% of the sum received from the sale of salvaged materials after the deduction of certain items of expenditure, i.e. items of expenditure which are specifically chargeable to the salvage account, and wages of men engaged in baling and sorting salvage materials. The total amount of bonus distributed to the men for the year was £884. 19. 4d.

The Council decided to amend this scheme, to have effect from the 1st January, 1952, but this revised scheme brought a protest from the staff, and negotiations are to take place with their Union representative.

The tables below show the weights and values of salvage sold during 1951:-

	T.	C.	<u>Weight</u> Q.	Lbs.	£	<u>Value</u> s.	d.
Mixed Paper	98.	10.	2.	0.	1319.	11.	7.
Newsprint	48.	3.	1.	0.	933.	0.	0.
Brown Paper	13.	5.	0.	0.	246.	14.	6.
Total Paper	159.	18.	3.	0.	2499.	6.	1.
Textiles	13.	15.	0.	0.	301.	15.	9.
Bottles	34.	0.	2.	0.	74.	8.	10.
Baled Tins	44.	2.	0.	0.	88.	4.	0.
Scrap Metals	16.	3.	3.	0.	79.	6.	10.
	268.	0.	0.	0.	3043.	1.	6.

Comparative totals for the years 1947, 1948, 1949, and 1950:-

	T.	C.	<u>Weight</u> Q.	Lbs.	£	<u>Value</u> s.	d.
1947	104	13.	1.	24	697.	14.	10.
1948	144.	13.	2.	24.	1008.	17.	7.
1949	209.	17.	2.	1.	1098.	15.	6.
1950	248.	17.	1.	12.	1220.	13.	9.

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EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT
TO
THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER
ON THE
DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Divisional Public Health Office,
"Stoneleigh",
Cooper Street,
SPRINGHEAD,
nr. Oldham.

To the Deputy County Medical Officer.

Report for 1951 - Division No.21.

No major difficulties in the administration of the divisional health services occurred during the year, but many health problems remain unsolved.

The Home Help Service continued to be very popular and very useful, the scope being limited by a lack of suitable recruits to the service. The District-Nurse/Midwife employed in the Delph area left during the year, and as the decreased number of domiciliary births did not justify the employment of more than two midwives, she was replaced by a whole-time district-nurse.

Mr. H. Buckley, Senior Clerk resigned in November, and Mr. A. Wright has been appointed to that post.

The dental health of school children is continuing to deteriorate from the high standard which had been achieved in 1948, when the school dental service in this area ceased. In general the effect has been disastrous for the future dental health of the population and in certain cases children have been found with hardly a sound tooth left, their general health suffering thereby.

A Speech Therapist became available to this division for a small part of her time during the year, but this is not adequate to deal with the accumulation of children suffering from speech defects that we have in our schools. At least twice this amount of time will be necessary before we can meet the need of this district.

The Infant Mortality, although lower this year, is still higher than that of the rest of the country. This rate which was lower than for England and Wales up to 1942, has since then been on the average higher than the national figure, and it is difficult to see why this should be. Over 60% of these deaths have been in the first month of life and prematurity has been the most frequent single cause, closely followed by congenital malformation, respiratory infection and injury at birth. It would appear that there is a relationship between neonatal deaths, still-births, premature births, and maternal mortality, as all are symptoms of an unsatisfactory pregnancy, and all appear to be affected by such general factors as nutrition, social class, mothers employment

during pregnancy, legitimacy, parity, age of mother, and intervals between births. It is difficult to assess the relative importance of these various factors operating locally, but it is of interest that in the 24 unsatisfactory pregnancies occurring this year there was evidence of an unsatisfactory maternal diet in two cases. One third of the cases were primiparas and in three other cases, there had been a long interval since the last previous birth. Six mothers had worked up to or beyond the 6th month of pregnancy (two right up to the time of labour). One mother was only 16 years of age, and two were first births at the latter end of the child bearing years.

I propose during the following years to investigate in detail the underlying causes of all these unsatisfactory pregnancies, to see if any local factors can be brought to light. A specimen copy of the form to be used in this investigation is attached.

I wish especially to mention the loyalty and hard work put in by all members of the County Council Staff in this division, and to thank the voluntary members at the Child Welfare Centres for their invaluable work during the year.

H. S. BURY.

COUNTY COUNCIL STAFF EMPLOYED IN THE DIVISION

Dr. H.S. Bury M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Divisional Medical Officer.

Medical Officer to Delph C.W.C. - Dr. J. Loftus, M.B., ChB.

" " " Greenfield C.W.C. - Dr. P.B. Wood M.B., ChB.

" " " Uppermill C.W.C. - Dr. H.S. Bury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

" " " Springhead C.W.C. - Dr. J.G. Waller, M.B., ChB.

" " " Ante-Natal Clinics - Dr. A. Edward L.R.C.F., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.

School Ophthalmologist - Dr. R. Burns, M.B., B.Ch. N.U.I., B.A.O.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Miss C.A. Holroyd, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
Housekeeping Cert. H.V. Cert. Greenfield, Delph,
Denshaw, Grasscroft.

Miss K. Mitchell, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V. Cert. Uppermill, Dobcross,
Diggle.

Miss M.I. Morris, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.I.D.N.S.,
Housekeeping Cert. Springhead, Austerlands.
H.V. Cert.

Midwives

Miss M.A. Stafford S.C.M. Springhead, Austerlands,
Denshaw.

Mrs. J. Cook. S.E.A.N., S.C.M.B. Uppermill, Greenfield, Dobcross,
Diggle, Delph.

Home Nurses

Mrs. N. Platt, S.E.A.N.	Springhead and Austerlands.
Miss A. McWilliam, S.R.N. T.A. Cert.	Grasscroft, Greenfield,
Q.I.D.N.S.	Uppermill, Diggle.
Miss E. Buxton (Resigned May, 1951)	Dobcross, Delph, Denshaw.
Miss N. Whitehead S.R.N.	" " "
(Appointed) 26.7.51)	

Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. M. Moore.

Speech Therapist

Miss M. J. Watkinson.

Duly Authorised Officer.

Mr. J. Threlfall.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. H. Buckley (Chief Clerk) Resigned 30th November, 1951.
Mr. A. Wright D.P.A. " Appointed 1st January, 1952.
Miss D.E. Broadbent.
Miss D.M. Sykes.
Mr. D. Stockton.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

Notification of Births.

Births Notified during the Year ended 31st December, 1951.

Details	BIRTHS				Total
	Domiciliary		Institutional		
	Live	Still	Live	Still	
(a) Primary Notifications	81	3	-	-	84
(b) Inward Transfers	4	-	137	2	143
(c) Total Notifications received	85	3	137	2	227
(d) Outward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
(e) Total adjusted Births	85	3	137	2	227

Analysis of Institutional Births.

	<u>Live</u>	<u>Still</u>
Born in (a) Hospital	108	2
(b) Maternity Homes	27	-
(c) Nursing Homes	2	-
Total	137	2

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Two whole-time midwives and one Home-Nurse/Midwife provide a domiciliary midwifery service for the whole area:-

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Address.</u>	<u>Tel No.</u>	<u>District</u>
Nurse M.A. Stafford	41, Walkers Lane, Springhead.	MAIN (Oldham) 3921	Springhead. Denshaw.
Nurse J. Cook.	"Thornleigh", Pickhill, Uppermill.	SADD. 347	Diggle. Uppermill. Greenfield. Grasscroft.
Nurse E. Buxton.*	1, Flowery Cottages, Grains Rd, Delph.	DELPH 385	Dobcross Delph

*(Left service May, 1951, and appointment not renewed)

Their work during 1951 is summarised overleaf.

Midwife	Confinements		Home Visits	
	As Midwife	As Mat. Nurse	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
Stafford	36	12	263	712
Cook	30	1	229	670
Buxton	3	1	38	138
Total	69	14	530	1520

During the year, increased emphasis has been placed on ante-natal care. Besides the increased responsibility of the midwife in the ante-natal clinic, the number of ante-natal visits has been increased and a policy has been introduced, whereby regular blood pressure readings as well as urine tests are carried out by midwives on all booked cases who do not attend ante-natal clinic, and an attempt is made to persuade each expectant mother to attend at least once at an ante-natal clinic to have a blood sample taken, and all doctors have been invited to send patients to the clinic for this purpose.

Gas and Air Analgesia.

All three midwives have Gas and Air Certificates, and each is equipped with Minnettes Apparatus. 19 mothers took advantage of this service during the year.

Medical Aid.

The following notices calling-in medical aid were issued during the year:-

Cause	Cases	
	Engaged	Not Engaged
<u>Pregnancy</u>		
Ante-Partum Hemorrhage	1	-
<u>Labour</u>		
Ruptured Perineum	4	7
General Condition	1	1
<u>Lying-In</u>		Nil
<u>Child</u>		
Prematurity	1	-
Stillbirth	-	1
Rash	-	2
Discharging Eyes	-	4
Coryza	-	1
	7	15

Other returns from midwives were:-

3 notices of artificial feeding.

3 notices of still-births.

Ante and Post-Natal Clinics.

Sessions continue to be held monthly at Springhead and Uppermill.

Attendances at each clinic are set out below:-

Clinic	No. of sessions	Average No. of attendances per session.	First attendances	Subsequent Attendances	Post-Natal Attendances
Springhead	12	19	35(29)	131(93)	10(17)
Uppermill	12	13	36(38)	120(114)	8(2)

Figures for 1950 are inserted in brackets for comparison.

I give below, analysis of ante-natal care received by expectant mothers delivered in their own home:-

1. Midwife only.	23
2. Midwife and general practitioner.	14
3. Midwife and ante-natal clinic.	30
4. Midwife, general practitioner, and ante-natal clinic.	<u>16</u>
	<u>83</u>

All mothers booked for confinement in Boundary Park Hospital receive ante-natal care at the hospital.

The total of 18 post-natal attendances were made by 18 mothers. A follow-up system to ensure that as many mothers as possible attended for a post-natal examination was inaugurated during the year, and it is hoped that the result of this be shown in next year's figures.

Ante-Natal Hostel.

There were no admissions to the ante-natal hostel from this division, suitable cases being unwilling to leave other children to the care of the Home Help, and places in residential nurseries being unobtainable.

Institutional Midwifery.

A good institutional midwifery service continues to be supplied for this area by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

Births in institutions outside the area were notified as follows:-

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham.	90	2
Woodfield Maternity Home, Oldham.	27	-
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.	4	-
Various Nursing Homes.	2	-
Lake Hospital, Ashton-U-Lyne.	12	-
The Hospital, Middleton-in-Wharfedale.	1	-
South London Hospital.	1	-

Applications for admission on non-medical grounds are referred to this office for background reports.

Ante-Natal Visiting to Institutional Midwifery Cases.

All bookings at Boundary Park General Hospital are notified to this office, and the Health Visitors make regular ante-natal visits to the home with the object of advising re diet etc., and preparing the mother for breast feeding. For this purpose, 70 mothers were visited and a total of 167 visits were made. Altogether 60 samples were taken during the year for Wasserman, Haemoglobin and Group reports.

"Flying Squad" Arrangements.

A fully staffed and equipped obstetrical flying squad based at Boundary Park Maternity Block is available in this area, and can be called upon in an emergency by general practitioner or midwife.

Dental Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

The one local dentist has undertaken the dental treatment of a few expectant mothers in urgent need of dental treatment, but is unable to undertake extensive work or the supply of dentures. Arrangements have now been made for these to be seen at Brighthouse Clinic, but so far, no mothers have been willing to undertake the long journey.

Still Births.

5 still-births were notified during the year, (i.e. 2% of total births), two occurred in institutions outside the area. Of the 3 still-births in the district, one was illegitimate, the pregnancy having been concealed and no ante-natal care received. See tabular summary below:-

Case No.	Weight Lbs. Ozs.	Ante-Natal Care	Confinement attended by	Notes
1.	7. 8.	Doctor & Hospital	Hospital	Full term. Legitimate. Hyperemesis.
2.	11. 8.	Hospital	Hospital	Full term. Legitimate. Atalectasis.
3.	3. 8.	None	Midwife	Premature (7 months) Illegitimate
4.	Not Known.	Midwife & A.N. Clinic	Midwife	Premature (7 months) Legitimate Macerated
5.	6. 0.	Doctor, Midwife & A.N. Clinic. Not started until 7th month	Midwife	Premature (8 months) Legitimate Hydromonias

Maternal Deaths.

Two maternal deaths occurred during the year. One occurred in hospital due to post partum haemorrhage, the other was the result of an abortion.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Child Welfare Centres

Child Welfare Centres continue to be popular with mothers, and attendance was well maintained.

Educational films were shown at all clinics during the winter session by arrangement with the Central Office of Information, but it was not possible to arrange them at monthly intervals as was done last year.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Name and Address of Centre	No. of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month	No. of children who attended during the year	No. of children who first attended during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were:-		No. of children in attendance at the end of the year who were then:-		Total number of attendances made by children in Col. 3. during the year.	
			Under 1 yr. of age	Over 1 yr. of age	Under 1 yr. of age	Over 1 yr. of age.	Under 1 yr. of age	Over 1 yr. of age.
Independent School; Delph.	4	158	23	6	18	140	1001	1292
Mechanics Institute, Uppermill.	4	143	54	2	39	90	915	724
Weslayan School, Greenfield.	4	194	31	7	29	160	892	1154
Congregational School, Springhead.	4	178	47	7	55	123	1218	1293
Totals		673	155	22	141	513	4026	4463

Infant Visiting.

The Health Visitors employed in the division are as follows:-

	Area	C.W. Centres
Miss K. Mitchell	Uppermill Dobcross Diggle	Uppermill
Miss M.I. Morris	Springhead Austerlands	Springhead
Miss C.A. Holroyd (car)	Delph Denshaw Greenfield Grasscroft	Delph Greenfield

Routine Infant Visiting carried out is summarised in the following table:-

District	Births notified 1951	First visits by H.V.'s to infants under 1 yr.	Subsequent visits by H.V.'s		Infants under 1 yr. attending C.W.C.'s.
			Under 12 mths.	Over 12 mths.	
Springhead Austerlands	72	68	265	468	55
Greenfield Grasscroft	54	43	474	624	29
Uppermill Diggle Dobcross	54	61	362	588	39
Delph Denshaw	42	37	726	951	18
Total	222	209	1827	2631	141

In addition, the following special visits were made by Health Visitors:-

District	Premature Babies	Investigation of Infant Deaths and Still-Births	Infectious Diseases, including Gastro-Enteritis.
Springhead Austerlands	-	1	16
Greenfield Grasscroft	3	1	169
Uppermill Diggle Dobcross	3	1	20
Delph Denshaw	54	2	371
Total visits	60	5	576

Care of Premature Infants

15 infants were born prematurely (birth wt. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., or less) to Saddleworth mothers during 1951. 14 were born in hospital, and 1 in the district, this shows a rate of 6.5 per 1,000 total births. One hospital case birth weight 4 lbs. 9 ozs. died within 3 days. One pair of twins gave rise to some anxiety at first, and the Health Visitor assisted with the nursing of them. They are now progressing favourably.

Case No.	Sex.	B.W. Lbs. Ozs.	Place of Birth	Condition at end of Year	Notes.
1	M	5 8	Hospital	Satisfactory	
2	F	5 4	"	"	
3	F	5 7	"	"	
4	F	5 8	"	"	
5	F	4 9	"	Died in Hospital	Lived 3 days.
6	F	5 8	"	Satisfactory	
7	M	5 8	"	"	
8	M	5 3	"	"	
9	F	5 8	"	"	
10	M	5 6	"	")	
11	M	4 1	"	")	Twins
12	M	5 0	Home	"	
13	F	3 11	Hospital	"	
14	F	5 2	"	"	
15	M	4 8	"	"	

Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.

Close liaison was maintained with the Social Worker, Oldham & District Moral Welfare Committee. Five illegitimate pregnancies occurred during the year, and financial responsibility was accepted for the care of two mothers at hostels during pregnancy. Two children remained with their mothers, and two were adopted, one was still-born.

Day Nurseries.

There are no Local Authority Day Nurseries.

Infant Deaths.

Deaths of children under one year, normally resident in Saddleworth numbered seven.

Causes of death were:-

Prematurity	- 1	2 hrs.
Sepsis	- 2	Both 3 weeks.
Acute Bronchitis	- 1	4 months.
Erithroblastosis Faetalis	- 2	4 hrs. and 3 days.
Congenital Malformation	- 1	10 months.

7

There were 3 deaths of children between one and fifteen years, a child of four years was drowned, and a child of two died as a result of a fall at home. A child, 13 years, died from Rheumatic Carditis.

Nursery and Child Minders Regulations.

One industrial nursery in Greenfield was registered in December 1950 for the reception of 14 infants between the ages of two and five. The premises were inspected regularly.

Conditional approval was given for plans for another day nursery in Grotton, but the work of converting the premises is not yet complete.

No further application for registration has been received during the year.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Nurse E. Buxton resigned 31st May, 1951, and Nurse N. Whitehead took over District-Nursing duties in Dobcross, Delph, and Denshaw in July.

The home nursing staff at the end of the year was:-

District	Nurse	Address	Tel No.
Springhead Austerlands	N. Platt.	3, Gordon Street, Springhead.	MAIN(Oldham)6371.
Grasscroft Greenfield Uppermill Diggle	A. McWilliam.	"Moorlands", Greenbridge Lane, Greenfield.	SADD. 338
Dobcross Delph Denshaw	N. Whitehead.	17, Grains Rd, Delph.	DELPH 385

Work carried out is summarised in the table below:-

<u>Chronic</u>	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Intercranial Vascular Disease	25	1195
Arthritis	6	180
Cancer	22	532
Senility	32	1141
Cardiac Diseases	30	800
Paralysis	3	632
Others	-	-
	118	4480
<u>Medical</u>		
Pneumonia	7	63
Bronchitis	7	109
Enemas only	3	12
Anaemia	3	106
Tuberculosis	8	246
Ulcerative Colitis	2	27
Skins	3	19
Diabetes	3	78
Others	6	58
	47	718
<u>Surgical.</u>		
Scalds and Burns	5	42
Injuries	7	85
Pre-Operative	11	24
Post-Operative Care	35	914
Abcesses, Ulcers and Sepsis	18	352
Colostomy	4	85
Gyneocological conditions	9	51
Others	1	5
	90	1558
GRAND TOTAL	255	6756

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is now an essential part of the health service during the present shortage of hospital beds and special accommodation for the elderly and infirm. The job of a Home Help is very exacting and often unpleasant. We have suffered a good deal from changes of Home Help staff, and since the service was inaugurated in July, 1948, 86 women have been employed, some only for short periods. The average length of service being 30 weeks.

We have however, a corps of loyal and hardened warriors, whose services are rewarded by the satisfaction they get from the humanitarian and social value of their work. Casual labour is however, still employed from time to time, as it is often impossible to balance the wide fluctuations between supply and demand experienced in this service.

During the year, 63 new applications were met.

"	"	"	7	"	"	"	refused as unsuitable.
"	"	"	2	"	"	"	" due to lack of staff.
"	"	"	3	applications were withdrawn on the grounds that the applicant could not afford to pay the assessed charge.			

A. Authorised Divisional Establishment 6.

B. Number of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December.

(i) Whole-time	-
(ii) Part-time	8
(iii) Total	<u>8</u>

C. Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December.

	No. of Cases	Hours Employed.
(i) Illness (excluding aged)	1	33
	21	2160
(ii) Lying-In	18	1160
(iii) Expectant Mothers	-	-
(iv) Mentally defective	-	-
(v) Aged	18	2028
	35	5547
(vi) Children of school age	-	-
	93	10928

D. Employment	No. of home helps that could have been employed full time
	<u>4½</u>

Total No. of hours of all home helps employed between 1st Jan. and 31st Dec. 1951 :- 2288 (52 weeks x 44 hours.)

CARE AND AFTER-CARE SERVICE.

Liaison with Hospitals etc.

We continue to receive requests for after-care from hospitals, and during the year at their request, supplied the services of:-

Midwives	-	91 cases
Home Nurse	-	17 "
Health Visitor	-	4 "
Home Help	-	1 case
Nursing Equipment supplied	-	16 cases
Environmental reports	-	19 "
Admission to Recuperative Centre	-	1 case

The services of the midwife were all for maternity cases discharged on the 10th day, or premature babies. A report from the Ward Sister accompanied all these requests.

The environmental reports all related to cases who had applied for admission to hospital for confinement on non-medical grounds.

In addition, twelve aged sick were secured priority admission to hospital on social grounds, on recommendation from this department.

Reports on discharge from hospital were received in respect of 17 school children.

Convalescence at Recuperative Homes was arranged in four cases. One at the request of the hospital, two at the request of general practitioners, and one on the recommendation of the Divisional Medical Officer.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Lunacy Acts.

The Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. J. Threlfall, reports as follows:-

"I am pleased to report that the work in your Division has been exceptionally light, five cases having been dealt with during 1951, this being an increase of three on the previous year. Two women, aged 76 and 33 respectively were removed to Northern View, Odsal, for their own safety under Section 21 Lunacy Act, 1890 (14 day detention order). Three women, two aged 50 and one aged 39 were admitted to Stortheres Hall Mental Hospital, as certified patients under Section 16, Lunacy Act, 1890. As previously intimated, I do not receive notifications of voluntary patients admissions".

At the end of the year, following discussions with Dr. A. Pool, Consultant Psychiatrist, Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee, Mrs. Moore, Mental Health Social Worker, undertook some care and after-care work of mental patients. Below is a copy of the scheme agreed with Dr. Pool:-

1. Ascertainment

Local general practitioners to be invited to refer cases of mental illness to the Divisional Health Office, in order that the Mental Health Social Worker can prepare a background report and arrange for the patient to attend the out-patient department, and if necessary, escort the patient to hospital.

2. Background Reports

(a) Reports on all cases referred to in (1) above, to be supplied to Psychiatrist.

(b) Reports to be supplied to Psychiatrist upon receipt of notice of admission to hospital, voluntary or certified.

(c) Report to be supplied upon notice from psychiatrist that a patient not previously reported upon is attending as an out-patient.

3. After-Care

Cases attending out-patients or in hospital, or discharged from hospital, to be visited at their homes by the Mental Health Social Worker in accordance with instructions given by the Psychiatrist at Friday morning conferences or through the Psychiatric Social Worker.

NOTE

1. The Duly Authorised Officer for this area is a member of the Welfare Dept., Staff, and the only duties for which he is responsible to the Health Department are the legal side of certification and arrangement for admission to hospital of certified patients.

2. The Mental Health Social Worker carries out all social work relating to the mentally defective and mentally ill. Her time is limited and she cannot therefore attend Friday morning conferences regularly, perhaps once per month will prove sufficient.

Six patients were visited by the Mental Health Social Worker, and a total of 14 visits made for the purpose.

Mental Deficiency Acts.

At the end of the year there were:-

	<u>Adults.</u>	<u>Children.</u> (under 16)
Under voluntary supervision	1	-
Statutory supervision	9	3
Guardianship	-	-
In Institutions	2	-

Work done under the Mental Deficiency Acts during the year is

summarised below:-

Patients visited:

Statutory Supervision	-	12
Awaiting Notification	-	2
Institution Patients	-	5
(home circumstances reports)		<hr/>
		19
		<hr/>
No. of visits made to patients homes	-	64
Patients ascertained and notified	-	2
Patients ascertained and notified but awaiting examination	-	1
Patients awaiting institutional care	-	2
Patients removed to institution	-	2
Patients removed from area	-	0
Patients removed to area	-	0
Patients receiving home training	-	2
Patients receiving training at an Occupation Centre	-	2
Patients working	-	5

The Mental Health Social Worker whose time is shared with that of

Division No.20, spends approximately one day per week on work in this division.

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The school population at the end of the year was estimated at 1622.

I was able to carry out all school medical work without assistance this year, and all schools were visited for the purpose of routine inspection of scholars. Many other visits were made for the purpose of the examination of special cases, investigation of outbreaks of infectious disease, inspection of buildings, and in connection with the School Meals Service etc.

School Medical Inspections.

Total number of scholars examined are summarised below:-

Routine

Entrants	211
Second Age Group	306
Leavers	<u>108</u>
Total	<u>625</u>

Other Inspections

Special Examinations	-	189
Re-Inspections	-	<u>58</u>
Total		<u>247</u>

A satisfactorily large proportion of parents attended inspections in the entrants and second age group inspections, though a much smaller proportion attended with the leavers.

Defects found are summarised according to the Ministry of Education tables reproduced overleaf.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requir- ing treatment	Requiring to be kept under obso. but not requiring treatment	Requir- ing treat- ment.	Requiring to be kept under obso. but not requiring treatment.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4.	Skin	7	3	1	-
5.	Eyes (a) Vision	32	13	7	7
	(b) Squint	6	1	1	1
	(c) Other	1	2	-	-
6.	Ears (a) Hearing	7	4	3	3
	(b) Otitis Media	9	5	2	-
	(c) Other	3	1	-	1
7.	Nose or Throat	21	29	13	22
8.	Speech	3	5	3	3
9.	Cervical Glands	1	15	3	3
10.	Heart & Circulation	-	4	-	4
11.	Lungs	9	9	2	7
12.	Developmental				
	(a) Hernia	9	5	-	-
	(b) Other	3	6	-	3
13.	Orthopaedic				
	(a) Posture	6	9	3	4
	(b) Flat Foot	5	-	2	2
	(c) Other	7	6	1	1
14.	Nervous System.				
	(a) Epilepsy	1	-	-	-
	(b) Other	-	1	1	1
15.	Psychological				
	(a) Development	-	5	2	2
	(b) Stability	5	9	4	-
16.	Other	12	16	6	11
Totals		147	148	54	75

In a number of cases recorded as requiring treatment, treatment was already being obtained from general practitioners or hospitals. Where treatment was necessary, patients were either:-

- (a) referred to general practitioners.
- (b) referred to hospital.
- (c) referred to specialist clinics.
- (d) referred to school nurse for treatment of minor conditions.
- (e) or in some cases, parents were advised on the management of the child at home, and the teacher was given instructions on the management of the child in school.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS
INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected	A No.	Good % of Col. 2.	B No.	Fair % of Col. 2.	C No.	Poor % of Col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	211	78	36.97	115	54.5	18	8.53
Second Age Group	306	100	32.68	183	59.8	23	7.52
Third Age Group	108	29	26.85	66	62.96	11	10.19
Total	625	207	33.12	366	58.56	52	8.32

Arrangement for treatment of special defects.

1. Defect of Vision and Squint.

The parent of a child found with defects of vision are given the option of obtaining treatment through the supplementary ophthalmic service, or being seen by Dr. Burns at a special eye clinic which is arranged from time to time.

During the year, 7 eye clinic sessions were held at which Dr. Burns saw 63 patients, and prescribed 29 spectacles. Spectacles were obtained in most cases by the end of the year.

2. Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.

Children with disease of the ear, nose or throat, are referred to a special E.N.T. Clinic arranged by the Hospital Management Committee at Boundary Park Hospital.

14 cases were referred during the year suffering from:-

Enlarged tonsils and adenoids	-	4 cases
Chronic tonsillitis	-	1 case
Deafness	-	2 cases
Chronic Rhinitis	-	2 "
Infected sinuses	-	1 case
Recurrent earache	-	2 cases
Otitis Media	-	1 case
Adenitis(Tb.)	-	1 "

Treatment recommended was:-

Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids	-	6 cases
Nasal Drops	-	3 "
Removal of Adenoids	-	1 case
Audiagram Test	-	1 "
No treatment recommended	-	2 "
Treatment not yet decided	-	2 "

All treatment recommended except those who are still waiting for removal of tonsils and adenoids was carried out either at the clinic or at home or school under the supervision of the school nurse.

3. Orthopaedic Defects.

Children with orthopaedic defects were referred to the orthopaedic clinic arranged by the Oldham Health Department, and now taken over by the Regional Hospital Board.

The following cases were referred:-

Postural Defect	-	1
Hallux Valgus	-	2
Deformity of Toe	-	1
Pidgeon Chest	-	1

4. Speech Therapy.

An increase in the number of speech therapists available, enabled arrangements to be made for a clinic to be held weekly during the summer at the Divisional Health Office.

1. Total No. of Sessions held during the year	-	42	
		Stammers	Speech Defects
2. (a) No. of new cases admitted for treatment during the year		14	20
(b) No. of cases already attending for treatment from the previous year		Nil	Nil
(c) Total No. of cases treated		14	20
3. No. of cases discharged during year			
(a) Speech normal		1	4
(b) Unsuitable for treatment		4	7
(c) Left school		1	-
(d) By reason of non-attendance		1	2
4. No. of cases awaiting treatment at end of year		4	Not yet had initial interview.
5. No. of visits made to schools		-	14
6. No. of home visits		-	Nil

5. Child Guidance.

Five cases were referred for child guidance and attended the Child Guidance Clinic, held at County Hall, Wakefield.

6. Minor Ailments

School Minor Ailments Clinics can not be satisfactorily arranged in the area, and the school nurse visits each school regularly and carries out treatment of minor ailments as required, also occasional cases are seen at Child Welfare Centres. Where an intensive course of treatment is needed, the school nurse visits the child's home and instructs the mother in carrying out the treatment, or in a few cases the home nurse has been called upon to visit the child at home daily.

7. Skin Diseases.

	No. of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
	<u>By the Authority</u>	<u>Otherwise</u>
Ringworm - (i)Scalp	-	-
(ii)Body	2	-
Scabies	2	-
Impetigo	4	-
Other skin diseases	8	-
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> -

All cases were treated successfully by the School Nurse.

Liaison with Hospitals and General Practitioners.

The Oldham and District Management Committee has agreed to give notice of admission and discharge of all children below school leaving age, together with a copy of letters to general practitioners. These arrangements are now functioning satisfactorily, notices concerning 17 children having been received during the year.

Each practitioner has been asked if he wishes children who are his patients and in need of specialist advice to be referred to him or direct to the specialist clinic. All have agreed to children being sent direct and the result of their attendance is reported to him.

Cleanliness Surveys and Treatment of Infestations.

At regular visits to the schools, the Health Visitors have made 6,440 examinations for infestations and 73 individual children were found to have verminous heads i.e. 4.3%. All cases are given D.D.T. Hair Emulsion to take home, with instructions for its use.

A few families have failed to respond to this treatment and the issue of cleansing notices under Section 54 of the Education Act, 1944, is being considered.

School Dental Service.

There has been no dental inspection or treatment in this division since the summer of 1948 due to lack of dental staff. The falling off in the standard of dental health of the children as seen at school inspections is alarming, especially in the primary schools.

Handicapped Pupils.

Many examinations have been carried out during the year for the ascertainment of handicapped pupils. Although many handicapped pupils exist, only those whose handicap is severe enough to require special education are placed on the register.

There are no special classes or day schools in this division and some parents refuse to allow their children to go to residential schools.

Handicapped pupils on the register at the 31st December, 1951, were:-

	Ascertained	At Residential School	At Day Special School	Ordinary School	At Home
Blind	-	-	-	-	-
Partially Sighted	-	-	-	-	-
Deaf	-	-	-	-	-
Partially Deaf	2	2	-	-	-
Delicate	2	-	-	2	-
Physically Handicapped	2	1	-	-	1
Educationally Sub-Normal	14	-	2	12	-
Maladjusted	2	1	-	1	-
Epileptic	-	-	-	-	-

In addition to the above, three children were admitted to Residential Open-Air Schools during the year, and on discharge were so improved that their names were deleted from the Register of Handicapped Pupils.

Ultra Violet Light Clinic.

The Ultra Violet Light Clinic was held during the winter months.

Twice weekly sessions were held at the Mechanics Institute, Uppermill, from the 9th October.

During the year, 68 cases were taken on and 60 completed, one or two six week courses.

30 cases were referred from school inspections

13 " " " " child welfare centres.

25 " " " by general practitioners.

Reasons for treatment were as follows:-

General Debility	-	19
Chronic bronchitis and Asthma	-	10
Frequent coughs and colds	-	21
Tubercular glands	-	1
T.B. Contacts	-	2
Poor Appetite	-	3
Knock Knees	-	3
Anaemia	-	2
Debility following Infectious Disease	-	3
Lack of Vitamin 'D'	-	3
Various Ailments	-	6

Milk in Schools.

One third of a pint of milk is available free to all children attending schools in the area. 1006 or 62% avail themselves of this valuable nutritional supplement. All schools are provided with pastuerised milk, except one which is provided with tuberculin tested milk.

The following samples of milk supplied to schools were taken by the County Sanitary Inspector during the year:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
6 Pastuerised Samples:-		
Phosphatase Test	6	-
Methylene Blue Test	6	-
6 Tuberculin Tested Samples	6	-

During the year, several complaints relating to school milk were received, and a thorough investigation was carried out with the result that the following letter was sent to the Divisional Education Officer

"I find the consumption of milk in schools in the Saddleworth District is below the average, and upon investigation, I find the following reasons are given by the teachers and the children:-

1. On two occasions, once at Greenfield Council School, and once at Friezland School, chips of glass have been found at the bottom of milk bottles, which has caused alarm.
2. Occasionally, bits of dirt are found floating on the milk which "put children off it".
3. Some children say the milk tastes "horrid", but they like the milk they have at home.
4. Some children say they do not feel thirsty when the milk is distributed, others say that it is too cold.

As I consider it is very important that all children should be persuaded to take advantage of the extra nourishment, may I make the following suggestions:-

1. Bottles should be inspected on distribution and any chipped or cracked bottles returned to the supplier.
2. The bottle tops should be inspected before being pierced as I feel that the dirt occasionally found floating on the top of the milk, falls through the top during piercing. The crates of milk often remain outside the school for some time before they are used, and during windy weather, dirt is blown onto them. Any arrangement that can be made for protecting them would be an advantage, i.e. an inverted box.
3. It should be explained to the children that the school milk may taste slightly different to the milk they drink at home because it is pastuerised to make it safer for them to drink, and that they will soon get used to the different taste.
4. That the children be given the opportunity to have their milk at alternative times, and that a crate be placed against a radiator to warm up, for those children who do not like the milk cold.
5. Teachers be instructed to inform this office immediately if there is any complaint about the milk, so that this be investigated.
6. The elementary rules of hygiene be observed in the distribution of straws, i.e. they should be kept in the box and kept covered and that children do not help themselves to straws from the box with dirty hands, thus contaminating them.

Halibut Liver Oil Capsules.

All of the primary schools in this division have taken supplies of Halibut Liver Oil Capsules during the year, and they have been given daily to all children under seven and to a few other scholars at the discretion of the teacher or on my recommendation.

School Meals Service.

At midday, meals are available at all schools. An average of 984 or 60% of the children were receiving meals daily, and 46 of these were receiving meals free.

Kitchens. Diggle County Primary School, Greenfield County Primary School, Friezland County Primary and Springhead County School have their own kitchens. All are clean and satisfactory from the point of view of hygiene, except that the kitchen at Greenfield is rather cramped for space. Food storage facilities are inadequate at Diggle, Greenfield, and Springhead. The grease trap at Springhead has at last been dealt with.

All other schools are provided from the Central Kitchen at Delph, food being delivered in insulated containers of good design. Due to transport difficulties, there is still a tendency for this food to be prepared and delivered too early in the morning, some schools receiving the meals as early as 11.20 a.m., so that it is kept in the containers for at least 50 minutes before being served.

The washing up facilities in the schools are now greatly improved and reasonably satisfactory, except at Uppermill Secondary Modern School, where an unhygienic old hut is still in use.

Meals are served in classrooms or halls, which are also used for classrooms at Lydgate, Doctor Lane, Friar~~more~~ Primary, Diggle, Springhead, and Lobcross, but suitable dining tables have now been provided in most cases.

School Buildings.

Following my detailed report on the inadequacy of washing facilities in the schools last year, the matter is being pressed with the County Council Education Committee, but nothing has so far been done.

The extensive defects reported at St. Mary's C. of E. School, Greenfield, have been considered by the governors, who are at present negotiating with the County Council about the future of the school.

